

Application No.: 10/718,176
Reply to Office Action of 06/17/2005
Art Unit: 3745

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants have thoroughly reviewed the outstanding Office Action including the Examiner's remarks and the references cited. The foregoing amendments and the following remarks are believed to be fully responsive to the Office Action and should render the claims at issue patentable.

Per Examiner's point 7, original claim 8 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Because original claim 8 is dependent on original claim 1, which remains rejected, claim 1 is currently amended to include the additional limitations set forth in claim 8. As a result, claim 1 as amended is allowable since it corresponds to original claim 8 written in independent form. At the same time, claim 8 is canceled. Now that the amended claim 1 is allowable, claims 2-7 and claims 9-11 must also be allowable for being depending on the now allowable claim 1.

Besides, per Examiner's point 5, claims 12-20 are allowable. Such is not impacted by the foregoing amendments. Claim 20 is currently amended only to correct an obvious typographical error.

Therefore, all pending claims in this application are allowable.

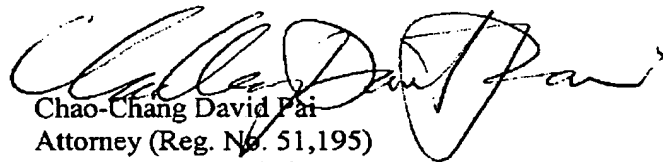
Conclusion

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims as currently presented are in condition for allowance and hereby respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

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Respectfully submitted,

PAI PATENT & TRADEMARK LAW FIRM



Chao-Chang David Pai
Attorney (Reg. No. 51,195)
1001 4th Avenue, Suite 3200
Seattle, WA 98154
(Tel) 206-372-3162